

Capt. Lewis Bissell House ~~House~~ MANSION
4426 Randall Place
St. Louis, Mo.

HABS No. MO-16

HABS
MO
96 SALU
19-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of St. Louis

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
CENTRAL UNIT - ST. LOUIS

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey
Eugene L. Pleitsch, District Officer
1592 Arcade Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
DISTRICT OF MISSOURI NO. 1.

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PROJECT NO. 16-~~MISSOURI~~.

"Bissell ~~Home~~". MANSION

This residence was built in the year 1823 by Captain Louis Bissell. Capt. Bissell was a well known officer in the Revolutionary War. Many famous people were entertained in this residence. The present owner is Dr. Edward F. Randall.

This is a two story brick, Old Colonial type with portico which was added at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. Portico is made of California Red Wood.

Information received from the St. Louis Star-Times.

EUGENE L. PLEITSCH.

TW 6/3/37

CAPTAIN LEWIS BISSELL HOUSE MANSION

4426 Randall Place (formerly 14th St.), St. Louis, Missouri.

Present owner: Mrs. Edw. F. Randall.

Present occupant and use: The owner's residence.

Description (present condition)

Wall construction: 13" brick, Flemish bond at front and one side.
Stone foundation.

Size and form: 38' x 50', exclusive of addition built prior to 1876.

Number stories: 2 stories, attic, part basement.

Front porch: Projecting, 1-story, pedimental roof.

Rear porch: 2-story portico across entire building, somewhat altered.

Exterior openings, windows: Box frame, brick flat arch, modern sash.

Exterior openings, doors: Elliptical-arched, fan-and side-light entrance. Door 8 panels.

Cornice: Molded brick course at front, wood cornice at other three.

Roofing: Originally shingles. Small deck, with scuttle, handrail now missing.

Chimneys: Four, brick, probably replacements.

Interior

Floors: Pine.

Doors: 6-panel.

Trim: Block trim at first floor, mitered trim at second.

Mantels: Wood, Greek Revival.

Stairways: Open string, round spindles, newel and handrail, fretwork brackets.

Plasterwork: No special.

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Captain Lewis Bissell House- MANSION

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Additions and alterations: 2-story brick wing added to west corner sometime prior to 1876. Windows changed.

Outbuildings: Slave quarters and other outbuildings have been destroyed for some time.

Year of erection: Tax list, St. Ferdinand Township, 1827, "show that no tax was levied on buildings, if any, owned by Mr. Bissell in the county.... It seems reasonable to suppose that Capt. Lewis Bissell built this brick house when he returned here with his family from Connecticut in 1830."*

Built for (first owner): Captain Lewis Bissell.

Architect or designer: Unknown.

Built by: Unknown.

Original intended use: Residence on large farm.

Notable events and occupants:

The Bissell farm was part of an original grant by the Spanish government when "On Aug. 17, 1798, Governor General Manuel Gayosa de Lemos granted 448 arpens plus or minus to Don Gabriel Cerre."
arpent .85 acre

Cerre's executors sold the land to Joseph Brown and on Oct. 8, 1807, Brown transferred ownership to Clement B. Penrose. He in turn sold to John McKnight and Thomas Brady, Dec. 20, 1816. Feb. 14, 1824, Lewis Bissell bought Brady's estate containing 677 acres and 2 roods plus or minus bounded on the east by the Mississippi River.

Born in Connecticut, Ensign Lewis Bissell was, in 1808, ordered to join his company at Fort Osage, about 350 miles up the Missouri River. He was stationed at various places during the war of 1812: Block house at Portage de Sioux, and Niagara Falls. Finally, as a Captain, he was in command of Fort Clark, now Peoria, Illinois. Resigning here in 1816 he engaged in the sutling business with Col. O'Fallon until 1822. Married in Connecticut in 1824, he removed to St. Louis in 1830, and engaged in farming.

When the house was built it was 2 miles from the city of St. Louis. When Cornelia B. Provines, a daughter, was allotted the homestead in January 1873 (Capt. Bissell died 1868), the city limits had been moved bringing the house within the city - Bellefontaine Road near Grand Avenue.

Captain Lewis Bissell House *MANSON*

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On June 29, 1882, Frederick Kraft acquired the property, and Dr. Randall came into possession of the property on March 11, 1925.

Prepared by: *F. Ray Leimkuehler* July ,1940.
F. Ray Leimkuehler
Architect in Charge, Central Unit,
Historic American Buildings Survey.

* All references are taken from "Identification of the Captain Lewis Bissell House," a typescript by Henry E. Rice, Jr., Chief Landscape Draftsman in the service of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, February 1940.

Approved: *Eugene L. Plutach* *10/1/40.*
District Officer

TW. Dec 8, 40

Addendum to
Captain Lewis Bissell Mansion
St. Louis City
Missouri

HABS No. MO-16

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127